Congress of the United States Washington. DC 20510

August 17, 2010

The Honorable Barack Obama President of the United States The White House Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

We write to support Illinois Governor Pat Quinn's request for a federal disaster declaration for seven counties in northern Illinois affected by severe storms, flooding, and flash flooding that occurred in late July. Governor Quinn has already declared these counties state disaster areas.

Severe storms and torrential rains led to flooding and flash flooding that damaged or destroyed residences, businesses, and other structures in the following seven counties: Carroll, Cook, DuPage, Jo Daviess, Ogle, Stephenson and Winnebago. The flood waters impacted thousands of Illinois residents and numerous communities causing sewer backups, damaging basements and first floor living areas, washing away bridges and roadways, and leaving significant debris for removal.

The Governor has determined that this incident is of such severity and magnitude that effective response is beyond the capabilities of the state and the affected local governments and that Federal assistance is necessary. Governor Quinn is specifically requesting Individual Assistance including the Individuals and Households Program, Disaster Unemployment Assistance, Crisis Counseling and Small Business Administration Disaster Loans for Carroll, Cook, DuPage, Jo Daviess, Ogle, Stephenson and Winnebago counties; and Hazard Mitigation Assistance for all counties Statewide.

We appreciate FEMA's assistance to date and respectfully request that you make the necessary declaration to allow residents and communities in the affected areas to receive the federal disaster assistance essential for a successful recovery. We thank you in advance for your timely consideration of this request and stand ready to assist in any way appropriate.

Sincerely,

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